

*LISTING OF CLAIMS*

1. (Canceled).

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim 1 ~~23~~, wherein ~~two further comprising a second~~ ridged, tongue-like portions are provided disposed at a distance from ~~each other~~ said first tongue-like portion in each of the expanded groove portions.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim ~~22~~ 23, wherein ~~one ridged~~, said first tongue-like portion is provided centrally in each of the expanded portions; and that wherein each of the coupling elements of the gasket comprises two protruding flaps ~~that are configured for engaging with engagement within the first and second openings provided at each side of the tongue-like portion.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim ~~22~~ 23, wherein ~~two further comprising a second~~ ridged, tongue-like portions are provided at a distance spaced from each other said first tongue-like portion in each of the expanded groove portion portions, said second ridged tongue-like portion formed by cutting and ridging of the heat exchanger plate to expose third and fourth openings on the respective sides of said second tongue-like portion, said first opening and said third opening defining proximal, mutually facing openings; and that wherein each of the coupling elements of the gasket comprises a protruding flap configured for engaging engagement within the two central and proximal, mutually facing openings provided at each their tongue-like portion.

7. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim ~~22~~ 23, wherein ~~two further comprising a second~~ ridged, tongue-like portions are provided at a distance spaced from each other said first tongue-like portion in each of the expanded groove portion portions, said second ridged tongue-like portion formed by cutting and ridging of the heat exchanger plate to expose third and fourth openings on the respective sides of said second tongue-like portion, said second opening and said fourth opening defining opposed, distal openings; and that wherein each of the coupling elements of the gasket comprises two outwardly protruding flaps that are configured for engaging engagement within the two central and opposed distal openings provided at each their tongue-like portion.

8. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim ~~22~~ 24, wherein the flaps on the coupling element of the gasket extend partially into the first and second openings.

9. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim ~~22~~ 24, wherein the flaps on each of the coupling elements of the gasket ~~press on~~ extend marginally into the first and second openings without extending considerably into the same.

10. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim ~~22~~ 23, wherein each of the coupling elements of the gasket is provided with a superjacent pressure element.

11. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim 5, wherein the flaps on each of the coupling elements of the gasket extend partially into the first and second openings.

12. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim 6, wherein the flaps on the each of coupling elements of the gasket extend partially into the proximal, mutually facing openings.

13. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim 7, wherein the flaps on each of the coupling elements of the gasket extend partially into the opposed distal openings.

14. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim 5, wherein the flaps on each of the coupling elements of the gasket ~~press on~~ extend marginally into the first and second openings ~~without extending considerably into the same~~.

15. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim 6, wherein the flaps on each of the coupling elements of the gasket extend marginally into the proximal, mutually facing openings ~~without extending considerably into the same~~.

16. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim 7, wherein the flaps on each of the coupling elements of the gasket extend marginally into the opposed distal openings ~~without extending considerably into the same~~.

17. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim 5, wherein each of the coupling elements of the gasket is provided with a superjacent pressure element.

18. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim 6, wherein the coupling element of the gasket is provided with a superjacent pressure element.

19. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim 7, wherein each of the coupling elements of the gasket is provided with a superjacent pressure element.

20. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim 8, wherein each of the coupling elements of the gasket is provided with a superjacent pressure element.

21. (Currently Amended) A heat exchanger plate according to claim 9, wherein each of the coupling elements of the gasket is provided with a superjacent pressure element.

22. (Canceled).

23. (New) A heat exchanger plate for use in combination with a gasket in a plate-type heat exchanger, said plate comprising a gasket groove formed by an indentation that extends through at least portion of the heat exchanger plate spaced from the periphery of the plate, a plurality of expanded groove portions disposed in substantially the same plane as said gasket groove at spaced intervals, a first ridged, tongue-like portion disposed in each of the expanded groove portions extending upwardly from the gasket groove, said first tongue-like portion formed by cutting and ridging of the heat exchanger plate to expose first and second openings on the respective sides of said first tongue-like portion substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the gasket groove, said gasket including a plurality of coupling elements, each of said coupling elements configured to be received in a respective one of said expanded groove portions and engaged by said first tongue-like portion.

24. (New) A heat exchanger plate for use in combination with a gasket in a plate-type heat exchanger, said plate comprising a gasket groove formed by an indentation that extends through at least portion of the heat exchanger plate spaced from the periphery of the plate, a plurality of expanded groove portions disposed in substantially the same plane as said gasket groove at spaced intervals, a first ridged, tongue-like portion disposed in each of the expanded groove portions extending upwardly from the gasket groove, said first tongue-like portion formed by cutting and ridging of the heat exchanger plate to expose first and second openings on the respective sides of said first tongue-like portion substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the gasket groove, said gasket including a plurality of coupling elements, each of said coupling elements configured to be received in a respective one of said expanded groove portions and including protruding flaps that are engaged within said first and second openings by said first tongue-like portion.